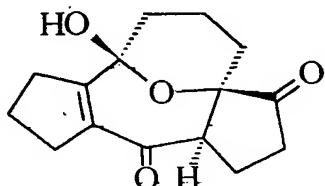


We claim

1. A process for the transformation of tricyclopentabenzene to 12 - hydroxy - 16 - oxatetracyclo [10.3.1.0^{1,5}.0^{7,11}] hexadec - 7(11) - en - 2,6-dione of the formula 2,



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said process comprising ozonolysing two out of three double bonds of trindane, followed by aldol condensation and adding the hydroxyl group to the carbonyl function intramolecularly to obtain 12 - hydroxy-16 - oxatetracyclo [10.3.1.0^{1,5}.0^{7,11}] hexadec - 7(11) - en-2,6-dione of formula 2.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ozonolysis of tricyclopentabenzene is done by passing ozonised oxygen through a solution of tricyclopentabenzene in dry CH_2Cl_2 admixed with dimethyl sulfide.
3. A process as claimed in claim 2 wherein ozonolysis is done at a temperature in the range of -70 to -80°C.
4. A process as claimed in claim 1 which is a one pot reaction.